

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [023] with the following amended paragraph:

[023] The area ~~[[408]]~~ 308 of external segment 104 can be displaced sufficiently to allow the lower portion of eyelet 304 to fit flush against the inner surface of external segment 104. This can allow an inner segment 102 and locking pin 108 to move freely without snagging on the reinforcing mechanism. This can be important because as illustrated in figure 1, inner segment 102 must be free to travel freely along the inside of external segment 104 for the telescoping handle to operate effectively.